

ALTA LOMA High School



SPARC 2009

Support Personnel Accountability Report Card
 "A continuous improvement document sponsored by the California Department of Education and the Los Angeles County Office of Education"



Jim Woolery, Principal
 Grades 9-12
 2680 Students

Principal's Message

I am proud of the strides our Student Support Personnel Team (SSPT) has made in providing proactive, data-driven guidance services. The administration team supports the implementation of the National Standards for School Counseling Programs. Alta Loma High School (ALHS) offers a comprehensive counseling program which supports our students in their academic, personal/social, and career development. Our counseling model features seven specialists: grade level (four); special needs and English Language Learners (ELL); college and career; and an academic intervention counselor who implements Assembly Bill 1802 (AB1802). Our SSPT plays a vital role in academic success and school safety by continually supporting students in all areas of their academic and personal lives.

Last year the SSPT identified two goals to improve and align programs with the school improvement plan. Our first goal dealt with 10th grade students receiving college and career guidance instruction by utilizing online curriculum available through Career Cruising (www.careercruising.com) and My Road (www.myroad.com). All 10th grade students received the lesson; however, based on the analysis of the surveys, the results were ambiguous. Even though the results were not entirely satisfactory, more students were able to identify potential post-secondary options. The second goal was to evaluate grade reports for all students at each reporting period. The SSPT measured the number of students who received three or more "F" grades. Parent contacts, individual meetings, and classroom presentations were conducted for these students. After these interventions were done, there

was a 77% decrease in the number of students with three or more "F" grades at the end of the second semester.

After examining current school-wide data to determine the needs of students, the SSPT has identified the following goals for this year:

- 1) Driven by data from the Healthy Kids Survey, counselors, working in collaboration with physical education teachers, will teach drug prevention lessons as part of the guidance curriculum identified in the National Standards for School Counseling Programs.
- 2) The SSPT will increase the number of students meeting the University of California and California State University A-G admission requirements by 3%. To meet this goal, counselors and SSPT members will lead classroom presentations, hold parent information nights, and have individual meetings with students.

The SSPT implements and exceeds the requirements of AB1802 by having Academic Review conferences with each student from grades 10 and 12 and their parents. Identified at-risk students and their parents meet with the academic intervention counselor to establish a plan to achieve graduation requirements, to pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE), and to identify post-secondary options. The SSPT's goal is to provide a comprehensive program which empowers students to make successful life choices, emphasizes personal responsibility, and maximizes academic achievement.

Student Support Personnel Team

The SSPT is committed to serving students, parents, and the community with professionalism and open communication, while aligning the school counseling program to the National Standards for School Counseling Programs. With the AB1802 funding, the SSPT has evolved into a proactive team. School counselors collaborate to promote academic achievement, personal/social development,

and post-secondary exploration by providing an equitable school support system for all students. The SSPT reviews data to drive the delivery of services and to enhance accountability. All certificated team members hold appropriate credentials which meet or exceed No Child Left Behind (NCLB) guidelines for highly qualified staff. In addition, 80% of certificated team members belong to one or more of the following professional organizations: American School Counselor Association (ASCA), California School Counselor

Association (CSCA), and Chaffey Administrative Leadership Association (CALA). With the National Model as a guide, the SSPT is guided by the belief and philosophy "Greatness is Expected."



CERTIFICATED STAFF	Total Years	Teaching Experience
Principal-MA, Admin.	21	10
Assistant Principals-MA, Admin.	72	57
Counselors-MA, PPS	134	38
Psychologist-MS, PPS, MFT	12	0
Nurse-MA	28	0
GATE Coordinator	10	10
3 Teachers in Student Support	34	34
Teacher Librarian	28	11
Special Education Chair	12	10
Speech Therapist-CRS	36	36

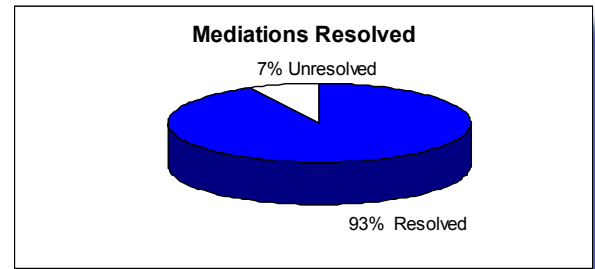
CLASSIFIED STAFF	Total Years
Records Technician	9
4 Guidance Technicians	75
Career Technician	7
Health Technician	30
5 Secretaries	105
4 Security Officers	65
3 Library Technicians	36

COMMUNITY SUPPORT
Deputy District Attorney
School Resource Officer
Business Partners (50+)

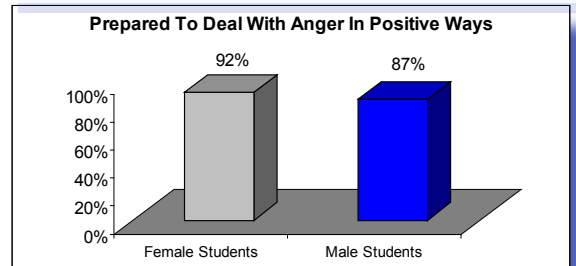
School Climate and Safety

The SSPT addresses safety procedures by enforcing strict standards which ensure a safe environment in which all students can learn. The SSPT, as members of the School Safety Committee, annually reviews and updates the School Safety Plan. In addition, the Assistant Principal of Discipline oversees the security personnel, School Resource Officer (SRO), School Safety Plan, and emergency procedures.

The SSPT trains peer counselors in the mediation process to help students when they have a conflict at school. Peer mediation empowers students to learn how to resolve problems in a safe and productive way, preventing future conflicts. The SSPT refers students to peer counseling and verifies the outcome of the mediation through follow-up meetings. As the graph to the right shows, 93% of the 29 conflicts were resolved through the mediation process.



Students may request a referral or be referred by staff to the anger management group facilitated by the SSPT. The group meets weekly during the semester to assist students in understanding the triggers of their anger and to learn positive methods of dealing with anger issues. As the graph to the right indicates, at the conclusion of the program, 92% of female students and 87% of male students felt they were better prepared to deal with anger in positive ways.

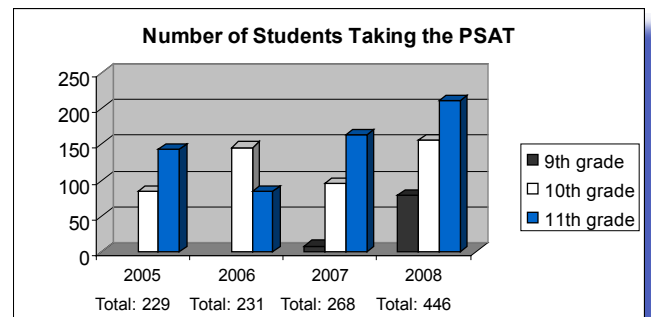


Student Results

Through the collection and evaluation of data, the SSPT ensures that students are meeting specific competencies, as outlined by the National Standards for School Counseling Programs. Using this important information, the SSPT reviews and updates programs in order to accommodate student needs. The results indicate that student growth is occurring in the areas of academic ability, personal/social skills, and career/future planning.

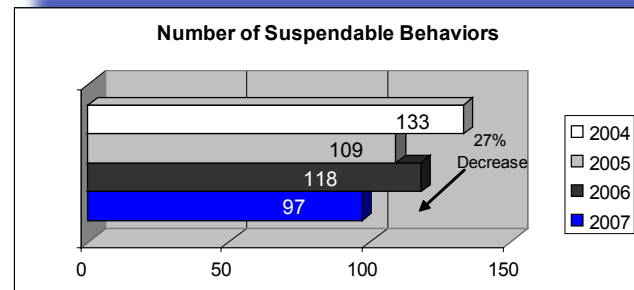
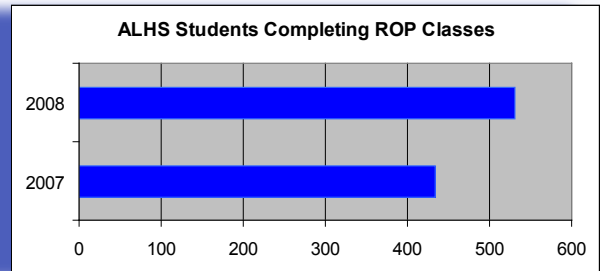
Academic Domain, Standard B: Students will complete school with academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial post-secondary options, including college.

Increasing the number of students taking the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) was a goal. The SSPT implemented strategies to communicate the benefits and value of taking the PSAT. During grade-level presentations, phone calls to parents, and one-on-one conferences, counselors addressed the importance of the PSAT for each student's future success. As shown in the graph above, the number of students who have taken the PSAT since 2005 has increased by 51%.



Career Domain, Standard B: Students will employ strategies to achieve future career success and satisfaction.

The SSPT supports and encourages exploration of career and college opportunities for students. Students explore career options by enrolling in Regional Occupational Program (ROP) courses. As the graph on the right shows, from 2007 to 2008, 97 more ALHS students completed ROP courses, which assist them in matching their career choice to college options.



Personal/Social Domain, Standard A: Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others.

The SSPT assists students in continuing to decrease the number of suspendable behaviors, as addressed in Education Code 48900 (a) (1): "Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person." Administrators and counselors participate in classroom visits addressing safety procedures and expected behavior, setting the tone for a positive school culture. When a suspension occurs, a post-suspension or due process meeting is held with counselors, parents, and students to discuss strategies to help students make positive choices in their behavior. The graph on the left shows a 27% decrease in the number of (a) (1) suspensions over the past four years as a result of these interventions.

Community Partnerships and Resources

The SSPT realizes that the community and parents play a vital role in student achievement; therefore, the value of community partnership and volunteer involvement is imperative. The SSPT collaborates with many community partners in order to meet the academic, career, and personal/social needs of all students. Community partnerships enhance the quality and effectiveness of the program by holding workshops that provide information, support, and resources in the areas of individual and family counseling, parent support groups, medical and mental health services, and college preparation. The City of Rancho Cucamonga (RC) coordinates programs that strengthen student achievement by providing scholarships, mentors, speakers, and services. Parents and students provide effective support and direction to the SSPT by assisting in the following events: Girl Talk conferences, PSAT, registration, orientation, College Information Night, and School Site Council meetings.

The SSPT encourages and invites parents to volunteer and welcomes help and support. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact Crystal Taormina: crystal_taormina@cjuhsd.k12.ca.us (909) 989-5511 ext. 2025.

Academic: City of RC College Fair, Ujima Project, City of RC Financial Aid Workshop, and Las Tias Funded Tutoring.

Career: City of RC Career Expo, ROP, College Speakers, Workability Program, and Armed Services.

Personal/Social: Reach Out West End, Alta Loma Psychological Services, Children's Crisis Response Team, Operation Clean Sweep, and Focus West Collaborative.

